

Leave eggplant on the plant for several weeks past the time you would normally pick it to eat. The color becomes yellowish brown and the skin will look dull.

Cut up eggplant into smaller pieces to find small brown seeds.

Pick seeds out by hand or smaller pieces can be pulsed in a food processor with a plastic blade to separate the seeds.

Rinse several times in a container until all the viable seed sinks to the bottom.

Pour off water and pulp, and spread seeds on a coffee filter, screen or newsprint to dry.



CREDITS

<https://www.seedsavers.org/listada-de-gandia-organic-eggplant>

<https://www.seedsavers.org/thai-green-organic-eggplant>

<https://www.seedsavers.org/learn#growing-guides>

<https://showmeoz.wordpress.com/2015/09/18/grow-pure-seed-with-blossom-bags/>

Seeds: <https://www.motherearthnews.com/organic-gardening/gardening-techniques/eggplant-seeds-ze0z1510zbay>



EGGPLANT

“Listada de Grandia”

(*Solanum melongena*)

“Thai Green”

(*Solanum melongena*)

RPLMN.ORG/SEED



Plan a seed.

**Backyard Bounty Urban
Homesteading Meetup**

History Center
of Olmsted County



101 Second Street SE, Rochester, MN 55904
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HOW TO GROW



Start Indoors: 8 weeks before last frost



Germination: 14 Days



Plant Outdoors: 12-24" Apart



Light: Full Sun

Start seeds indoors, planting them ¼ inch deep in potting soil. Eggplants can be grown in containers.

Keep soil warm and moist, in an area with full sun or under grow lights. Harden-off plants before transplanting outside. To do this, move plants outdoors for a portion of the day to gradually introduce them to direct sunlight and cooler temperatures.

Transplant eggplant to a full sun location in the garden or in large containers after danger of frost has passed and soil is 50°F. Daytime temperatures should also be consistently above 75°F.

HOW TO HARVEST

Harvest eggplants at a variety of sizes.

Test eggplant by pushing on them with your thumb – the skin should bounce back.

Use a scissors or knife to cut eggplant from the plant to avoid damage.

HOW TO EAT

Eggplant can be baked for Baba Ganoush, breaded and fried for Eggplant Parmesan, or chopped and stewed with additional garden vegetables for Ratatouille.



HOW TO SAVE SEED RATING: EASY WITH PRECAUTIONS

Eggplants are annuals. Eggplants are insect and self-pollinated.

Eggplants may cross-pollinate so precautions are needed in order to ensure pure seed if growing more than one variety.

Cross-pollination will result in seed that doesn't produce the same fruit as the parent plant.



When growing more than one variety, isolation by bagging a cluster of flowers prior to flower opening is necessary.

Isolation bags should remain on the blossom until small eggplants have formed.

Mark the isolated eggplants to remember which fruit you will be saving seed from.

When growing more than one variety, only collect seed from isolated eggplants.

When an eggplant is ripe for eating, the seeds are not yet ready for saving.

Overripe eggplants should be used for seed saving.